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COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:00 P.M., CONFERENCE ROOM 325
SB654 SD1 Relating to Campaign Finance
TESTIMONY
Beppie Shapiro, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Buenaventura, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports SB654 SD1 which would lower the amount of anonymous contributions collected from ten or more persons at a political function.

In the current climate of very large anonymous contributions from unidentified donors in SuperPACS, this may seem unimportant; but on the contrary, SB654 SD1 makes an important statement about the principle of money as speech espoused by the Supreme Court: that such “speech” must be identified with the individuals contributing it in order to be fully understood by voters.

We are happy to see the Hawaiʻi Legislature making this commitment to the principle of identifying political contributors. We urge you to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amy Brinker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



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**STATE OF HAWAII
CAMPAIGN SPENDING COMMISSION**

235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 16, 2015

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary

Members of the House Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Kristin Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director *KIN*
Campaign Spending Commission

SUBJECT: **Testimony on S.B. No. 654, S.D. 1, Relating to Campaigns**

Tuesday, March 17, 2015
2:00 p.m., Conference Room 325

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. The Campaign Spending Commission ("Commission") supports this bill.

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") §11-353(d), by reducing the amount of anonymous contributions a candidate may receive from ten or more persons at a fundraiser (calabash bowl) from \$500 to \$100. Subsection (d) is a limited exception to the rule in subsections (a) and (b) that prohibits anonymous contributions. If this measure is adopted, calabash bowl contributions will no longer be listed in Schedule A, but will be included in the disclosure reports on line 11(a)(i) (Monetary and Non-Monetary Contributions of \$100 or less).

The Commission requests that this Committee pass this measure.